Sexual Harassment at Work Place

1275. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in a landmark judgement on August 13, 1997 the Supreme Court had laid down certain guidelines prescribing sexual harassment at work place and other institutions and directed employees to set up procedures through which women can make their complaints heard;

(b) if so, the guidelines and directive issued in this regard;

(c) whether it is fact that nothing tangible has been done for the implementation of the guidelines; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI PR. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in the case of Writ Petition (Criminal) No. 666-70 of 1992 filed by Visakha and others against the State of Rajasthan and others defined what constitutes sexual harassment and laid down certain guidelines for prevention of such harassment. The guidelines and directives include, *inter-alia,* the express prohibition ol sexual harassment as defined by the Court, modification of relevant Rules to include clauses for prohibition of sexual harassment and making provision for appropriate penalties, and setting up ot appropriate complaint mechanisms to deal with cases of sexual harassment of women employees.

(c.l and (d) The Government has taken a number of initiative to give effect to these guidelines. These include cneulation of the guidelines, for action as indicated therein, to all Secretaries to Govt, of India, Chief Secretaries ot Slales/Uts. Chairman Managing Directors of Central Public Sector Undertakings, large number of responses have since been received, intimating action taken in accordance with the directives. The Deptt. of Personnel & Training has also amended the CSS (Conduct) rules, 1964 with a view to implementing the guidelines. Monitoring the implementation of guidelines is a continuous process.

Legislation on Agricultural Labour

1276. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to introduce a legislation on agricultural labour in the country; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI PR. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (c) A proposal for a Central legislation for agricultural workers is under consideration of the Government.

Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth

1277. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to launch an employment scheme for the educated unemployed youth of the country, shortly, and

(b) if so, by when it will be launched and whal arc the broad features of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI R KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

Payment of Statutory dues to Workers of PSUs

1278. SHRI JIBBON ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2569 given in the Rajya Sabha on 14th August, 1997 and state:

(a) total outstanding arrears on non-